

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 00922 01 OF 02 181216Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 TRSE-00
OMB-01 DOE-11 SOE-02 ACDA-12 /092 W
-----041845 181223Z /11

O R 181202Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4895
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION USNATO
USNMR SHAPE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 00922

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, EGEN, ENRG, PEPR, GW, US
SUBJECT: PRESS REPORT OF SCHMIDT-CARTER SUMMIT IN JULY

BEGIN SUMMARY. A BONN PAPER REPORTS THAT CHANCELLOR
SCHMIDT IS SEEKING TO CLEAR UP POTENTIAL DIFFERENCES OF
VIEW BEFORE CARTER COMES TO THE FRG IN JULY FOR BILATERAL
TALKS AND THE FOURTH ECONOMIC SUMMIT. THE ARTICLE LISTS
A NUMBER OF ALLEGED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BONN AND
WASHINGTON, BUT IT PUTS THEM IN THE CONTEXT OF A SOUND
RELATIONSHIP. THE EMBASSY PLANS NO COMMENT ON THE QUES-
TION OF A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT OR ON THE OTHER ALLEGATIONS
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PAGE 02 BONN 00922 01 OF 02 181216Z

IN THE ARTICLE. END SUMMARY

1. THE INDEPENDENT BONN DAILY, "GENERAL ANZEIGER" (GA),
CARRIED ON JANUARY 18 AN EXCLUSIVE REPORT THAT CHANCELLOR
SCHMIDT PLANS TO RESUME HIS CORRESPONDENCE WITH PRESIDENT
CARTER, WHICH HE BEGAN LAST MONTH, SO AS TO CLEAR UP
POTENTIAL PROBLEMS BEFORE THE PRESIDENT COMES TO BONN FOR

"SEVERAL DAYS" OF BILATERAL TALKS AND THE FOURTH ECONOMIC SUMMIT IN THE "SECOND HALF OF JULY." WE ARE SENDING THE FULL TEXT BY SEPTTEL.

2. TITLED "SCHMIDT WANTS TO AVOID DIFFERENCES WITH THE USA: VIEWS DIFFER MOST STRONGLY IN ECONOMIC POLICY," THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT BONN TAKES AN INCREASINGLY POSITIVE VIEW OF PRESIDENT CARTER AND HIS ADMINISTRATION. HOWEVER, THE GA ALSO LISTS SEVERAL ISSUES WHICH -- "IN BONN'S VIEW" -- REQUIRE URGENT CLARIFICATION SO AS TO PREVENT NEW STRAINS FROM MARRING THE USG-FRG RELATIONSHIP:

A. USG POLICY ON THE DOLLAR. THE GA CLAIMS THAT BONN TAKES AN INCREASINGLY JAUNDICED VIEW OF THIS POLICY AND BELIEVES THAT WASHINGTON SHOULD RESORT TO "CLEAR AND SYSTEMATIC INTERVENTIONS" TO STABILIZE THE DOLLAR AT A HIGHER LEVEL.

B. ENERGY. ACCORDING TO THE GA, THE GERMANS BELIEVE THAT IT IS URGENT FOR THE USA, AS THE LARGEST CONSUMER OF ENERGY, TO ADOPT ENERGY-SAVING MEASURES. OTHERWISE, THE DOLLAR DEVALUATION AND CLIMBING AMERICAN OIL IMPORTS WILL LEAD OPEC TO IMPOSE A "DRASTIC" HIKE IN OIL PRICES THIS YEAR.

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PAGE 03 BONN 00922 01 OF 02 181216Z

C. WHY IS THE DOLLAR WEAK? THE GA REPORTS A CLEAR FRG ANNOYANCE OVER CONTINUING AMERICAN EFFORTS TO MAKE BONN'S ECONOMIC POLICIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PLIGHT OF THE DOLLAR. IT CLAIMS THAT THE FRG DOES FAR MORE TO STIMULATE ECONOMIC GROWTH OF ITS TRADING PARTNERS THAN DOES THE USA.

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PAGE 01 BONN 00922 02 OF 02 181218Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 EB-08 TRSE-00
OMB-01 DOE-11 SOE-02 ACDA-12 /092 W
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O R 181202Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 00922

D. NORTH-SOUTH. THE GA SAYS THAT BONN URGENTLY WANTS A CLARIFICATION OF USG VIEWS AND A BETTER USG COORDINATION WITH THE "EUROPEAN PARTNERS." BONN REGRETS THAT IN THE PAST THE USA HAS REPEATEDLY CONFRONTED ITS PARTNERS WITH FAITS ACCOMPLIS. THE ARTICLE ASSERTS THAT USG-FRG AGREEMENT IS A BASIC PREREQUISITE FOR SCHMIDT'S GOAL OF ACHIEVING THIS YEAR A BREAKTHROUGH IN MOVING TOWARD COMMON DC POSITIONS WITH RESPECT TO THE MOST IMPORTANT NORTH-SOUTH ISSUES.

E. DEFENSE. BONN IS REPORTEDLY CONCERNED OVER THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BONN 00922 02 OF 02 181218Z

USG POSITION RE THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEUTRON WEAPON. IT BELIEVES THAT THE PRESIDENT ERRED WHEN HE IN EFFECT TRIED TO LET THE EUROPEANS MAKE "THE DECISION ON PRODUCTION." THIS GAMBIT HAS GIVEN THE SOVIETS A MAJOR MEANS OF APPLYING PRESSURE; IT IS HOPED THAT THIS MISTAKE "CAN STILL BE CORRECTED." ON THE OTHER HAND, BONN WELCOMES THE PRESIDENT'S WILLINGNESS TO CONSULT CLOSELY WITH THE ALLIES ON SALT ISSUES.

3. THE GA FURTHER MAINTAINS THAT THE FRG DOES NOT SHARE THE CRITICISM OF THE PRESIDENT'S RECENT TRIP AND OF THE "APPARENT CONTRADICTIONS IN HIS STATEMENTS" (NOT SPECIFIED) ON THE MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. TO THE CONTRARY,

BONN BELIEVES THAT THE TRIP UNDERLINED THE CLEAR AMERICAN INTENTION TO CONTINUE PLAYING A ROLE OF WORLD LEADERSHIP. MOREOVER, BONN "POSITIVELY VIEWS" AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION.

4. THE EMBASSY PLANS TO MAKE NO COMMENT ON THIS ARTICLE, WITH RESPECT EITHER TO A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT OR ANY SUBSTANTIVE POINTS THEREIN.
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Message Attributes

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